



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent
P48D1-US

*#14
P48D1-US
C. H. H. H.
5-15-02*

In the application of: Pedersen et al.
Application No.: 09/539,287
Filing Date: March 30, 2000
For: Lithographically Defined Microelectronic
Contact Structures

Examiner: Q. Vu
Group Art Unit: 2841

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

RECEIVED
MAY - 7 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. and foreign patent document, and pending U.S. application (including drawings and claims), is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
– OR –
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
– OR –
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
– OR –
- ☒ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; and
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

Patent
P48D1-US

☒ *Fee Authorization.* Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee due, or credit any overpayment associated, with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P48D1-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 1, 2002

By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Dr.
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 294-4300

2841



PATENT
P48D1-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Pedersen et al.
Application No.: 09/539,287
Filing Date: March 30, 2000
For: Lithographically Defined Microelectronic
Contact Structures

Examiner: Q. Vu
Group Art Unit: 2841

RECEIVED
MAY - 7 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

NOTICE OF RELATED PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the following commonly owned applications and patents (and the art cited therein), whose subject matter may be deemed related to the subject matter of the above-identified application.

US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/753,310	(P34D1-US)	filed	December 29, 2000
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/752,853	(P34D2-US)	filed	December 29, 2000
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/023,859	(P47-US)	filed	February 13, 1998
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/795,024	(P73D1-US)	filed	February 26, 2001
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/777,348	(P74D1-US)	filed	February 5, 2001
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/364,788	(P84-US)	filed	July 30, 1999
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/364,855	(P96-US)	filed	July 30, 1999
US pat. appl. serial no.:	09/752,640	(P96D1-US)	filed	December 29, 2000
US pat. no.:	6,184,053	(P35-US)	issued	February 6, 2001
US pat. no.:	6,268,015	(P73-US)	issued	July 31, 2001
US pat. no.:	6,255,126	(P74-US)	issued	July 3, 2001

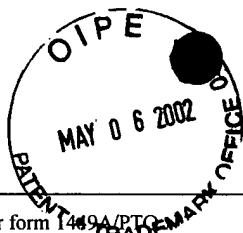
Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 1, 2002

By: 

N. Kenneth Burraston
Reg. No. 39,923

FormFactor, Inc.
Legal Department
2140 Research Dr.
Livermore, CA 94550
Telephone: (925) 294-4300



Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

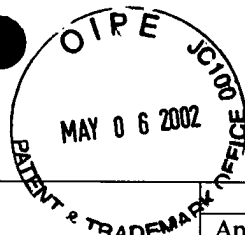
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/539,287
				Filing Date	March 30, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Pedersen et al.
				Group Art Unit	2841
				Examiner Name	Q. Vu
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P48D1-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1	2002/19152	A1	Eldridge et al.	2/14/2002	
	2	5070297		Kwon et al.	12/3/1991	
	3	5172050		Swapp	12/15/1992	
	4	5177438		Littlebury et al.	6/5/1993	
	5	5191708		Kasukabe et al.	3/9/1993	
	6	5391521		Kim	2/21/1995	
	7	5455390		DiStefano et al.		
	8	5465611		Ruf et al.	11/14/1995	
	9	5476211		Khandros	12/19/1995	
	10	5476818		Yanof et al.	12/19/1995	
	11	5477611		Sweis et al.	12/26/1995	
	12	5495667		Farnworth et al.	3/5/1996	
	13	5513430		Yanof et al.	5/7/1996	
	14	5666190		Quate et al.	9/9/1997	
	15	5828226		Higgins et al.	10/27/1998	
	16	5897326		Eldridge et al.	4/27/1999	
	17	5994152		Khandros et al.	11/30/1999	
	18	6014032		Maddix et al.	1/11/2000	
	19	6059982		Palagonia et al.	5/9/2000	
	20	6064213		Khandros et al.	5/16/2000	
	21	6184053		Eldridge et al.	2/6/2001	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/539,287
				Filing Date	March 30, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Pedersen et al.
				Group Art Unit	2841
				Examiner Name	Q. Vu
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P48D1-US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	22	CH	661129	A5		6/30/1987		
	23	JP	7-021968		w/ English abstract	1/24/1995		
	24	WO	96/02068		DiStefano et al.	1/25/1996		
	25	WO	97/43653		Khandros et al.	11/20/1997		

OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²	
	26	ABOLAFIA, "Tapered Vias In A Photosensitive Dielectric Film," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 21 no. 12 (May 1979), pg. 4787		
	27	"Robust Method Using Simple Unit Processes For Thin Film Cu-Polyimide Packaging Structures," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 34 no. 10A (March 1992), pp. 368-69		
	28	KONG et al., "Integrated Electrostatically Resonant Scan Tip For An Atomic Force Microscope," Journal of Vacuum Science & Technology, Vol. 11 No. 3 (May/June 1993), pp. 634-641		
	29	"Thin Film Substrate For Wire Bonding," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 32 No. 10A (March 1990), pp. 80-81		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.